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G. Patrick Sage THE FIRM OF HUESCHEN AND SAGE 500 Columbia Plaza 350 East Michigan Avenue Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

Dear Mr. Sage:

This is in response to your letter received 17 January 2002 inquiring about the status of U.S. patent application 09/869,768 filed 29 June 2001. The application has been processed by the U.S. Designated/Elected Office and a Notification of Missing Requirements (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) has been issued. A copy of that notification is attached herewith for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Nguyên Ngoc-Hô Paralegal Specialist

Mayer Maga Hô

PCT Legal Office

Tel: (703) 308-6508

Attachment:

Copy of Form PCT/DO/EO/905